

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW MEXICO

James Stenhouse, III,

Plaintiff

vs.

Case No.

Northstar Location Services, LLC,

Defendant

**COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES, DECLARATORY AND
INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

NATURE OF ACTION

1. This is an action brought under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (“FDCPA”), 15 U.S.C. § 1692 *et seq.*, and the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (“TCPA”), 47 U.S.C. § 227.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. This Court has jurisdiction under 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d), 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3), 28 U.S.C. § 1331, and 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a).

3. Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(b), where the acts and transactions giving rise to Plaintiff’s action occurred in this State and this district, where Plaintiff resides in this State and this district, and where Defendant transacts business in this State and this district.

PARTIES

4. Plaintiff, James Stenhouse, III (“Plaintiff”), is a natural person who at all relevant times resided in the State of New Mexico, County of Lea, and City of Hobbs.

5. Plaintiff is a “consumer” as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(3).

6. Defendant, Northstar Location Services, LLC (“Defendant”) is an entity who at all relevant times was engaged, by use of the mails and telephone, in the business of attempting to collect a “debt” from Plaintiff, as defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(5).

7. Defendant is a “debt collector” as defined by 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

8. Plaintiff is a natural person obligated, or allegedly obligated, to pay a debt owed or due, or asserted to be owed or due a creditor other than Defendant.

9. Plaintiff's obligation, or alleged obligation, owed or due, or asserted to be owed or due a creditor other than Defendant, arises from a transaction in which the money, property, insurance, or services that are the subject of the transaction were incurred primarily for personal, family, or household purposes.

10. Defendant uses instrumentalities of interstate commerce or the mails in a business the principal purpose of which is the collection of any debts, and/or regularly collects or attempts to collect, directly or indirectly, debts owed or due, or asserted to be owed or due another.

11. Within one (1) year preceding the date of this Complaint, Defendant made and/or placed a telephone call to Plaintiff's cellular telephone number, in effort to collect from Plaintiff an obligation, or alleged obligation, owed or due, or asserted to be owed or due a creditor other than Defendant.

12. Within one (1) year preceding the date of this Complaint, Defendant

willfully and knowingly utilized an automatic telephone dialing system to make and/or place a telephone call to Plaintiff's cellular telephone number, in effort to collect from Plaintiff an obligation, or alleged obligation, owed or due, or asserted to be owed or due a creditor other than Defendant.

13. Where Plaintiff's counsel had not given Defendant permission to contact Plaintiff directly, defendant communicated with Plaintiff directly after learning that Plaintiff was being represented by counsel.

14. On or about August 20, 2010, Weisberg & Meyers sent a written correspondence to the Defendant informing them that the firm was representing the Plaintiff in regard to his alleged debt, account number being 1004274459, and instructing Defendant not to contact Plaintiff directly in regard to the debt. See Notice letter attached hereto as Exhibit A.

15. Subsequent to receiving the aforementioned written notice, Defendant sent an additional written correspondence, which included a demand for payment of the alleged debt, to the Plaintiff directly.

16. Defendant also made at least one collection call by telephone to the Plaintiff subsequent to receiving said notice. (15 U.S.C. § 1692c(a)(2). See Billing Statement attached hereto as Exhibit B.

17. Defendant placed a non-emergency call to Plaintiff's cellular telephone, without the prior express consent of Plaintiff, using an automatic telephone dialing system and/or artificial and/or prerecorded voice. (47 U.S.C. 227(b)(1)(A)(iii).

18. Defendant's actions constitute conduct highly offensive to a reasonable person.

COUNT I

19. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation contained above.

20. Defendant violated the FDCPA as detailed above.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for relief and judgment, as follows:

- a) Adjudging that Defendant violated the FDCPA;
- b) Awarding Plaintiff statutory damages, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692k, in the amount of \$1,000.00;
- c) Awarding Plaintiff actual damages, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692k;
- d) Awarding Plaintiff reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in this action;
- e) Awarding Plaintiff any pre-judgment and post-judgment interest as may be allowed under the law;
- f) Awarding such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

COUNT II

21. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation contained above.

22. Defendant violated 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A)(iii) by willfully and knowingly utilizing an automatic telephone dialing system to make and/or place a

telephone call to Plaintiff's cellular telephone number.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for relief and judgment, as follows:

- a) Adjudging that Defendant violated 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(1)(A)(iii);
- b) Awarding Plaintiff statutory damages, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B), in the amount of \$500.00 per violation;
- c) Awarding Plaintiff statutory damages, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(C), in the amount of \$1,500.00 per violation;
- d) Awarding Plaintiff actual damages, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B);
- e) Awarding Plaintiff reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in this action;
- f) Awarding Plaintiff any pre-judgment and post-judgment interest as may be allowed under the law.

TRIAL BY JURY

23. Plaintiff is entitled to and hereby demands a trial by jury.

Respectfully Submitted,

s/Larry Leshin

Larry Leshin

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Attorney for Plaintiff